Choriographers

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Winterton's touch made 'em sparkle ike stars

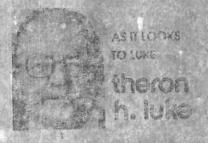
PROVO — The Young Ambassadors' solcists sang in their clear, pure voices. Speakers told of his diffident, shy, humble greatness. Countless friends silently wept.

They were saying goodbye to Des Winterton, cruelly cut down by an automobile accident in the peak of his life, at 48, and to "his little side-kick," his bright, precocious, 11-year-old son, Jay Dee.

His legion of friends are still numb. They came hundreds of miles, some of them, for his funeral. The old Sundance casts — from Jack-son Hole, from California. Somewhere in Europe was our daughter, for whom he virtually be came a godfather through the roles he tutored her in over the years at Sundance. By the time of the funeral, I am certain she did not know. By the time you read this, she will.

Speakers told, with even some sad laughter amid the tears, of the Winterton Hotel on Comanche Lane, a relatively little-known part of his life. Here, over the years, he and his wife. Maureen, gave shelter for varying periods to a great many pages periods who had no other. great many young people who had no other shelter. Most were interested in the ater. Some were not, they just didn't have any other shelter at the time.

Dee Winterton was really a shy mam i think he always was surprised, and even puzzled, at his own successes. Actually, they were always, to him, the successes of those he thught, his pro-teges, the countless young people who appeared in all of his productions—from a tent theater in Jackson Hole, to Sundance, to the Young Am-hassadore—with whom he probably had found his greatest niche.



There is one thing that basn't yet been said, among all the tributes that have been paid all n. I hope with all my heart I can say it, and say it. right. De

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Dee Winterton was really a shy man. I think he always was surprised, and even puzzled, at his own successes. Actually, they were always, to him, the successes of those he taught, his proteges, the countless young people who appeared in all of his productions — from a tent theater in Jackson Hole, to Sundance, to the Young Ambassadors — with whom he probably had found his greatest niche. his greatest niche.



AS IT LOOKS TO LUKE theron

There is one thing that hasn't yet been said, among all the tributes that have been paid him. hope with all my heart I can say it, and say it right

Dee Winterton enabled every young person who ever worked with him to see - and touch the stars. And the process went one step for ther — he snowed them how to bring the stars down for their audiences to see.

From the chorus to the leads, for him they smiled brighter, danced with a little more beau-ty and precision, sang a little better. You never saw a bad Dec Winterion production. Some may have been better than others, but there was nev-

Countless young actors, actresses and dincers dream of touching the stars. Considering all who try, a relative few do. But all who worked with Dec Winterton did. They may not have gone on to stardom or professional careers. All but a few turned to having babics and making a living, and kept only their memories. But it they were Dee Winterton memories, they will stay bright all their lives. He had that extra touch that demanded their cost, plus his quiet genins that made their best always a little better.

Performers knew it. Audiences could sense it. It was Dee Winterton's gift to them, nithough many in the audience never knew its source. And he never worries whether they knew or not. He was one of those truly humble people to whom only results mattered, not the credit

Many people have been involved with him in theater and dance for well over a decade. Some still are. His passing will leave a void of facir lives that may never quite be illied.

The young people who worked with him wor-shipped him. The only thing it ever did was embarrass him. He was truly a shy, humble man

His work, his quiet genius, may at least in part live on. Some of the best he taught, who are teaching now, will pass it on.

It will be his legacy to you and me.